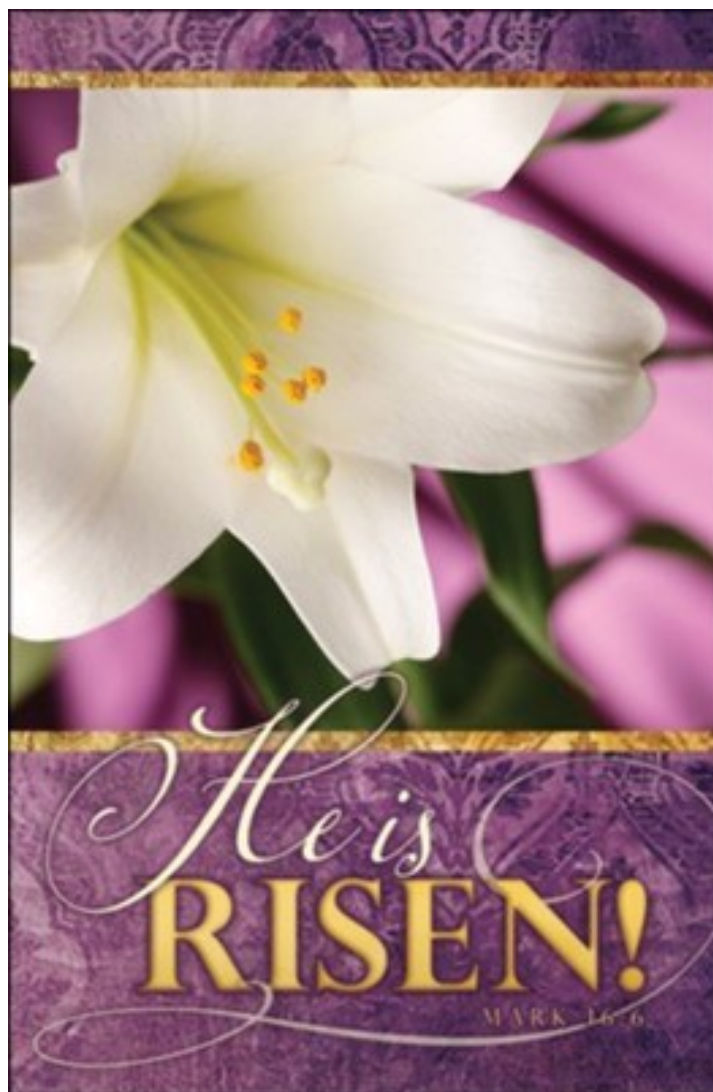


# THE ZION HERALD

Proclaiming Good News

April 2023



"And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power."

1 Corinthians 6:14:

**Message from our President:**

April is the month when the promise of Spring is realized in all of its natural splendor amidst an aura of life renewed, expectations met, aspirations fulfilled and countless hopes and dreams suddenly appearing attainable.

This year we at Zion will celebrate Holy Week from April 2 through April 9. We will pray, reflect, contemplate and be awe struck by the story of Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem on Palm Sunday; the plotting against Him by Jewish and Roman authorities; the New Covenant He made on Maundy Thursday; His crucifixion and death on the cross on Good Friday; and His glorious resurrection on Easter Sunday, with its message of salvation for sinners and the promise of eternal life for those who believe in Him.

There is no love greater than the love of Jesus, Who laid down His life for us as a sacrifice to pay for our sins. As Lutherans we believe we're saved from our sins by God's Grace alone, through Faith alone, on the basis of Scripture alone. We believe salvation comes not from our good works but from God's Grace and through Faith in Christ Jesus.

God's love for us is all encompassing and never ending. As long as we endeavor to obey the Commandment to love Him with all of our heart and mind and soul NOTHING can separate us from His love- not our sins; nor our weaknesses; nor our foibles and failures; nor our reluctance to forgive our enemies and not even our refusal to forgive ourselves.

There is no greater comfort than that which comes from knowing that despite our multitude of sins, our self-pity, our anger, our depression and even our own sense of guilt, God never gives up on us and Jesus never abandons us. We know, by courtesy of the Risen Christ, that as long as we believe in Him and endeavor to the best of our humble abilities to show our love for Him through service to others, we will be spending eternity in heaven when our work on earth is done. That should give each of us a sense of peace that transcends all human understanding.  
HAPPY EASTER

*Lord, make us ever grateful for the sacrifice which took away our sins and the promise of eternal life brought by the Risen Christ. Help us to be the people you want us to be. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.*

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Fidler  
Council President



**THANK  
YOU!**

Special  
thanks to our  
Troop 12 Boy  
Scouts for picking up and  
disposing of, all the limbs,  
branches and twigs on the  
church grounds!!



Memories! Over the last several weeks we have lost two members that I have known for 75+ years: Chuck Danner and Ruth Elsass. I remember Chuck and his siblings parking along West Maple Street for church, while I walked with my mother up West Maple from our house. I remember Chuck's Brother Jim dying after heart surgery. I also remember Chuck winning a bicycle at the Hoover Picnic. I remember going with my mother to the Snyder farm to buy eggs from Ruth. At that time Verle and Ruth lived in a trailer behind the old farm house. Ruth was a hard working lady both on the farm and at church. Ruth once met my wife while she was working a funeral luncheon for Ruth's cousin Al Snyder, from that day forward Ruth would always ask me how my wife was when I saw her on Sunday mornings. Actually the Danner's and Snyder's were neighbors, when you crossed Frank Road on Portage going up the hill into Jackson Township, the Danner Farm was on the left and the Snyder Farm was across the street on the right. I know we all have memories of Chuck and Ruth; therefore, let us keep both families in our prayers that they can find peace with their loss.

### Supporting Teams:

**Handyman Services**, leader- Ken Reinoehl  
Volunteer and Request forms are available on the bulletin board across from Pastor's Office.

**Visitations** – Please consider your participation.

**Transportation** – Team Leader needed, please consider.

**Prayer Chain** – Contact Kay Davis and add your name to the chain, Kay will E-Mail you with prayer request.

**Funeral Reception Meals** – One reception was held March 11<sup>th</sup> for the Elsass family.

**Feed a Friend** – Laura Thompson: No Report.

**Blood Program**—Team Leader, Debbie Fox. A blood drive was held March 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Comfort Givers** – Darleen Milavickas. No Report

**Food Pantry**—During the month of **February** the Food Pantry served 144 households consisting of a total of 322 people. As a comparison, 113 households with 247 people were served during **January 2023**. February served 31 additional households consisting of 75 more people than January. Also, 24 additional children were served in February. These numbers reverse the January losses from December 2022. **February 2022** served 134 households consisting of 360 clients. February 2023 had 10 more households, but 38 fewer clients than last year. Thank you to all our sponsors and volunteers that make this Ministry possible.

As I reported our Food Client numbers had dropped off in January; however, they returned in February to December 2022 levels with several new clients. This reflects the loss of the SNAP program which may have affected some households with a loss of \$200.00 or more in their monthly food budget.

**Greeting Cards** – We have a new volunteer to support our current card senders. Consider donating supplies or volunteering.

**Shared Goods** – Team Leader, Darlene Milavickas.  
Check with the office for the schedule other than Food Pantry day.

*O God, let us give thanks to you for enabling us to provide for the thirsty and the hungry. Amen.*

G. Scott Gross—Caring Ministry Elder





**Sunday School - Pre-K thru 6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

We have planned special lessons and fun activities on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday during church services and Sunday School. On Palm Sunday (April 2nd), We will have a triumphant musical procession at the start of our 9 am service. Please have the children arrive around 8:50 am to get their instruments (which they can keep!). After service, we will have a special Sunday School lesson at 10:15 am, followed by an Easter Egg Hunt. Children of all ages are invited to participate and welcome to bring a friend! Don't forget your baskets to collect Easter eggs! On Easter Sunday, we will have some special activities during our 9 am service followed by an



important Easter lesson and fun Easter activities and games. We hope everyone will join us for this special Sunday when we celebrate the Risen Savior, Jesus Christ, who loved us so much that he died for us to save us and promise us eternal life through Him.

**Adult Sunday School**

The group will meet in the worship space this month on Sunday mornings at 10:15 am with coffee provided. Come be part of a humorous and poignant series that uses real world topics to look toward a preferred future for the church, *Chuck Knows Church; The Committee*, in living color. There will be Sunday School on Easter (Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>).

*Dear God, help us to open our minds, our ears and our hearts to what You are telling us, and to do what You want us to! Guide us in our pursuit of furthering our education into your Word. Amen*

**Confirmation & High School Classes**

These classes will meet Sunday morning at 10:15 am following service. We will meet in the Coffee Exchange area after service and then head to class. See you on Sundays!

**First Communion Classes**

Hannah Venable completed her First Communion Classes in March. Thank you to Cindy Bagocius for leading the classes and helping Hannah learn about this important gift from God that she will receive. Hannah will receive her First Communion during Maundy Thursday Service, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. Please join us on Maundy Thursday and support Hannah as she receives this important gift of grace. Let her know how much she is loved by God and her Zion family!



**Women's Bible Study**

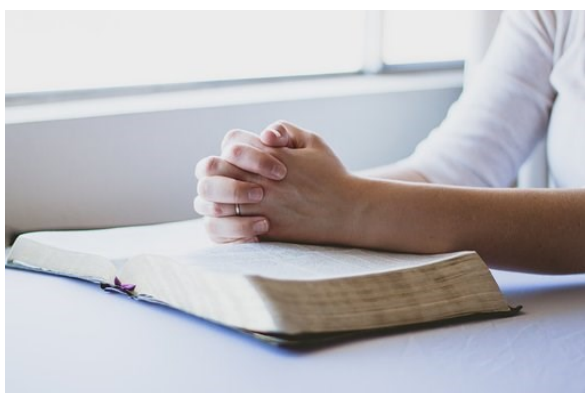
First, we want to thank Sue Whalen for leading this group over the past couple of years. Her time, dedication and hard work are much appreciated! Sue will be handing the reigns over to Cindy Bagocius and Ruth Reinoehl as leaders of this group. We are in the planning stages, but plan to meet monthly and use the bible study from the ELCA Women's magazine, *Gather*. Our next session will be in May. Stay tuned for details about date, time and place. Thank you to Cindy and Ruth for their willingness to lead our Women's Bible Study.



**Weekly Bible Discussions**

- ◆ Bible discussions for adults are on Thursdays at 9 am by Zoom. Please contact Tina Taylor in the church office if you would like the Zoom link to be part of this discussion.
- ◆ The weekly lessons and Gospel message are discussed during this session
- ◆ If this time doesn't work, contact Pastor William to set up a time that does.





### QUIET PRAYER TIME

#### Witness Ministry

Every Sunday from 8:15 to 8:45 am, the Adult Sunday School room is open for anyone who would like to have quiet prayer time or just to read your Bible. I know how busy our lives can be so this may be the time to have no distractions and peace and quiet to strengthen our time with God. There will also be a prayer board to post any special prayer requests you may have for the week. Prayer is so important. There is strength in numbers so let's all gather and pray together.

*Dear God, You instructed us to love each other as you love us. Always and in all ways. Open our eyes to the many opportunities that come before us. Amen*

Sue Whalen—Elder



One of the difficulties men face in life is discovered belatedly in life, very late. Way too often it is only discovered when a loved one is attempting to find six pall bearers for a funeral. It is amazing how often it is only then realized, that the man did not have six close friends. If you are one of them, you don't

even know what you are missing, and you should definitely try to do something about it now, while you are still alive. One of the easiest solutions would be to join a group, be a friend, become a friend. The most difficult part is to make yourself open to becoming friends with others. Not just by attending meetings, but also by socializing, playing games, conversations and forcing yourself to become a friend to others.

**MEN**, PLEASE join us at the church on the last Saturday of the month, 8:30 am in the morning, when we will continue to explore the ventures of being a good Christian.

### BE SURE TO BRING A FRIEND WITH YOU!

At our next meeting, March 25<sup>th</sup>, we will begin discussing a book entitled, ***“Not in it to win it”*** by Andy Stanley. This book is a thought-provoking commentary on how we have not been following the Biblical teachings of Jesus. Join us and add your two cents worth to the discussion. At the time of this writing, there are two copies still available in the church office, just ask the secretary. This book a VERY enlightening book which challenges all Christians in their daily lives.

It has been decided to make **GAME DAY** a monthly event, [September thru May], and we will take vacation June, July and August.

**‘Game Day’** on **SATURDAY April 22<sup>nd</sup>** will be our next gathering. It is an easy way to get to know each other and enjoyable to boot. Once again, you are more than welcome to bring your friends along.

(PS. A “Friend” doesn’t necessarily have to be a member of Zion.)

Also, keep in mind, some of the men have volunteered to give you a hand with any chores you may have. This includes helping to shovel the sidewalks, change your furnace filters, Spring cleaning, etc. (This is to be at no cost to you, but if you wish to pay, donations can be made to the Men’s group.) Sign-up sheets are located on the Men’s bulletin board located in the hallway outside the pastor’s office. Complete the form and give to Ken Reinoehl

**WE WILL “GIT ‘ER DONE!”**



# April Birthdays

Sandy Elsass	April 7
Renee Keith	April 7
Lorraine Weinmann	April 9
Johanna Henderson	April 16
Weston Milek	April 18
Beth Heller	April 20
Jane Fairman	April 22
Christopher Thompson	April 23
Ava Medina	April 23
Keith Haga	April 24
John Long	April 26
Cindy Bagocius	April 26
Dick Seeton	April 27
Art Brakus	April 28
Clarence Givler	April 29



# April Anniversaries

Robert & Susan Heyard  
Vicki & Clarence Givler  
Ron & Linda Tvorik  
Christopher & Melanie Whalen

# WITNESS MINISTRY



We are expanding the garden this year. We will be building 12 more beds on Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup> from 11-2. We also will be replacing some original beds in the main garden on Hillcrest Road on April 15 from 12-2.

We have the existing garden full again this year and a few of the new beds already accounted for. We have 10 of our gardeners returning this year. (4 of which are from the congregation)

We are recipients along with the Hillcrest Garden to a “Creating Healthy Communities” grant from the Stark County Health Department. This will be used for our expansion and mulching of the garden along with various improvements. We have agreed to provide 5 beds to be used for the food pantry. We will be keeping track of how much food is provided. We had a group from Starbucks in Washington Square contact me. They were looking for a service project they could do so they will be mulching our garden in April.

I have contacted the boy scout troop at the church to see if anyone is interested in earning an Eagle Badge by building a wooden fence and gate around the garden this year.

I had one of the boy scouts contact me last year about doing an eagle scout project so he made an information booth for us. We will be dedicating it sometime in June. I am so excited for how our community garden is growing and seeing how much it is helping the community. I’m excited about all the plans we have for it this year.



**If you would like your own spot, please let me know. I have some 4’ x 8’ beds available for \$25.**

I am amazed how God has worked in providing people for the garden and to bring Abby from the Health Department to provide a grant that allows us to expand and provide more for the community and the food pantry.

*Dear God. You instructed us to love each other as you love us. Always and in all ways. Open our eyes to the many opportunities that come before us.*

Sue Whalen, Witness Ministry Elder







**SHARED GOODS—** Darlene Milavickas Elder

This month we were able to help out our neighbors at Refuge of Hope with boxes of clothes. We also paired up with Promise in Purple, which is a PROM Shop, sponsored by Jackson Bear Hugs who serve all in need. The Promise in Purple collected 700 prom dresses last year with all the accessories to go along with the dresses. They are hoping to collect even more this year. They also have donated suits, dress shirts and shoes for the boys. The students in need from all the area schools are bused to the shop to pick out their prom and graduation clothes. We were able to help them out with a car load of dresses, suits, dress shirts, and shoes that our neighbors donated that

we could then donate to Promise in Purple. Thank you for your support and donations to this great ministry to provide clothes and household goods for all in need.

*Dear Lord, You asked us to cloth the naked. Help open our eyes to see you in all*

**COMFORT GIVERS—** Darlene Milavickas Elder

Each year we are a part of the Lutheran World Relief touching thousands of lives by the generosity of our hearts. Time, compassion and prayer is dedicated to each quilt and kit that we sent, affecting families worlds away in times of need and bringing reminders of God’s grace and love to these neighbors. And while these quilts and kits bring warmth and comfort to families facing crisis, they also provide hope and a fresh start to desperate families who often feel alone, afraid and isolated from loved ones. Luyboo Biliska who works at one of the rehabbed shelters distribute quilts and kits states;” If you look at these people now, these are completely different faces. There is peace, there is a gleam in their eyes that we see and we are happy that we’re able to help these people.”

LWR published their numbers for the 2022 fiscal year. They sent a total of 220,317 quilts, 1,650 blankets, 94,000 personal care kits, 46,560 baby care kits, 90,860 school kits and 8,815 fabric kits to 19 different countries.

Thank you all for your contributions this last year. We are working to expand our ministry and could use more volunteers. Come help our neighbors across the world and here. We meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month from 10am – 12pm.

## Let's Talk About Words

***"I kept always two books in my pocket, one to read, one to write in."***

Robert Louis Stevenson (Scottish novelist, poet and travel writer, most noted for writing *Treasure Island*, *Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*)

The power of words is often underestimated. And yet, really think about how the words you use have an effect on others: The easiest way to prove this to yourself is to improvise on the "How are you?...Fine.....How are you?" common discourse.

The latest great line I have heard was in the movie *Jingle Jangle: Following the law is just the beginning*. In some aspects, this can be viewed as a summary of the Bible!

We read a lot of words on the **First Friday at 10am Book Discussion Group** (generally one book per month and the participants choose the books). Even if you don't care for the book, articulating (in words!) *why not* and how the book may be improved is a source of growth for all.



### We finish up this season's readings with:

The Girl with the Louding Voice, by Abi Dare, April 7, 2023

The Weight of Ink, by Rachel Kadish May 5, 2023

She's Come Undone, by Wally Dare June 2, 2023

If you have questions, please contact Linda Weidenbach at [lindakjw@gmail.com](mailto:lindakjw@gmail.com) or phone #850-766-5640.

"If we understood the power of our thoughts, we would guard them more closely. If we understood the awesome power of our words, we would prefer silence to almost anything negative. In our thoughts and words, we create our own weaknesses and our own strengths.

Our limitations and joys begin in our hearts. We can always replace negative with positive."

-Betty Eadie



**Resource Ministry March Update**

**The sun is shining emphasizing Peace and God’s blessings with you all!**



Holy Week and Easter are approaching at a rapid rate, and in less than three weeks we will be celebrating the resurrection of our Lord and Savior. We look forward to this celebration and trust that you will join us for all the associated activities. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate and reward us with brilliant sunshine to highlight the occasion. We encourage you to utilize each of your daily interactions to share this “Good News” as we share our resources with the Zion community.

Our Stewardship campaign, “Building a Culture of Generosity” continues to be a point of emphasis throughout 2023. Assessment of giving patterns to date indicate a majority are executing Intent Card commitments as reflected increases in 2023 giving rate compared to 2022. We will be providing you a quarterly Giving Statement at end of March so that you can assess your giving year-to-date and make sure it reflects your intended commitment. Your spiritual, physical, and financial support is critical for us to accomplish Zion’s ministries and share the good News with our community in a fiscally responsible manner.

February giving results were an improvement over February 2022 (12%). Combined with our strong January results, Giving year-to-date is 40% ahead of 2022 levels. This provides a more optimistic financial foundation to 2023. February results produced an operating deficit of \$6,136 and year-to-date deficit of \$7,134. We anticipate reversing these results during the Easter season in April. This is the 8<sup>th</sup> consecutive month of improvement compared to prior year; we thank you for your continued support! We also solicit your positive financial support to adequately fund Zion’s ministries.

Opportunities abound for us to make 2023 a safe, happy, and healthy year of sharing our resources to positively impact our community. Your individual contributions will compound to ensure it happens.

*Lord, we continue to be humbled by the resources you make available to do your work at Zion. Please provide inspiration to recognize needs in our community and to appropriately respond to them. We do this in honor of your glorious name, Amen.*

Faithfully yours,  
**Resource Ministry—John Rhodes Elder**

	February 2023	Full Year 2023
Income		
Expenses	\$19,516.44	\$53,021.72
Net Income	\$25,652.65	\$60,156.54
	-\$6,136.21	-\$7,134.82

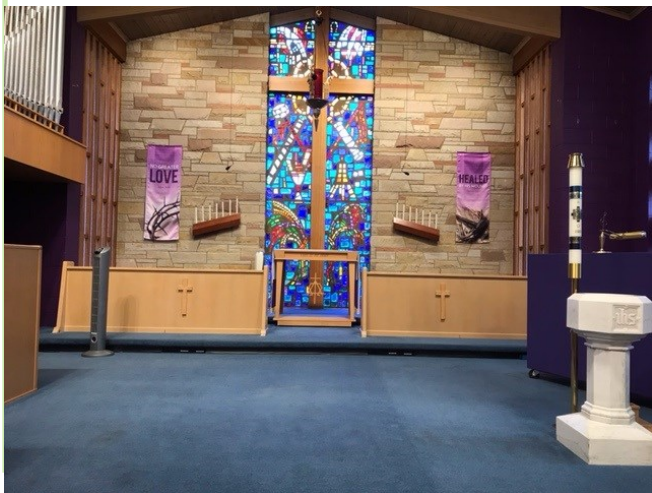




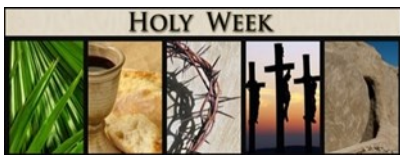
(Left) Back left pews moved to replace water-stained pews and to prepare for shorter pews for wheelchair access.  
(Below) Taking out the water-stained pews on the left.



(Left) Replacing the water-stained pews  
(Bottom) No job is complete without discussion!  
(Bottom left) The altar is back in the sanctuary under the cross







**Holy Week** begins with Palm Sunday and proceeds through the four days of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Resurrection Sunday. This is the defining season of Christianity and you are encouraged to grow closer to your Savior by fully participating in all four worship experiences.



**Palm Sunday**, Wednesday March 29 at 7:00 pm and Sunday April 2 at 9:00 am

On this day, united with Christians around the world, we mark Jesus' triumphant entry in to the holy city of Jerusalem to complete the work of our salvation. We follow his footsteps as we enter the church, our Jerusalem, acclaiming the one whose throne was the cross.

**Worship Pattern:** we gather with palms and joy to hear the reading of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. Worship continues in the usual pattern.



**Maundy Thursday**, April 6 at 7:00 pm

On this night we begin the Three Days during which we participate once again in the saving power of Jesus' passing over from death into life. The Maundy Thursday service includes the words of Jesus' new commandment (*madatum*, from which *Maundy* comes) to love one another. On this night in which Jesus was handed over to death we also gather around the Lord's supper. At the service conclusion, the altar area is stripped of furnishings as a sign of Jesus' abandonment.<sup>1</sup>

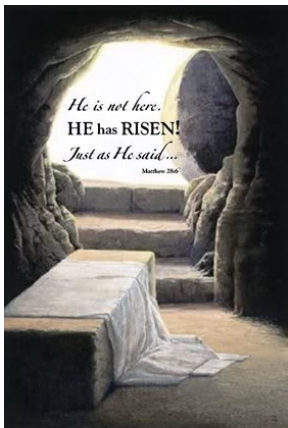
**Worship Pattern:** we gather in the gym to experience the Living Last Supper and join with our First Communicant in receiving Christ's body and blood. Service concludes with silent procession to the worship space where we sing *Were You There*, followed by the solemnity of stripping the chancel.



**Good Friday**, April 7 at 7:30 pm

On this night, the journey continues through the Three Days of Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection. At the heart of this service is the passion reading according to John, which celebrates Christ's victory on the cross. As Jesus draws all people to himself, we pray for the whole world for which Christ died. Finally, we honor the cross as the sign of forgiveness, healing, and salvation. With all God's people we are invited to before this mystery of faith. Christ has died, so that we may live.

**Worship Pattern:** we gather in silence, pray for one another, hear God's Word, glorify the cross, and ponder what Christ did for us and the whole world.



**Resurrection Sunday**, April 9 at 9:00 am

Every Sunday in worship, the church celebrates the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit gathers us to receive again the gifts of God that come to us through Christ, the saving Word. On this day, we rejoice anew. Easter is the day of all days. The tomb could not keep Jesus. As Christ is risen, we too shall be raised. Come, join with all the faithful across the world as we raise our voices in triumphant song and share the meal of Holy Communion which Christ set before us. Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He's Risen indeed! Alleluia!



Palm Sunday concludes our 40 day Lenten journey. It recognizes the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem and is marked by words of praise and adoration for the God who came to save us.

Sadly, that joy is short-lived as we recognize the reality of what awaits Jesus after his final entry into Jerusalem; the cross, for our sake.

Before we celebrate the Resurrection, we are called to remember that Jesus' suffering and death demonstrates God's love for us.


We experience this through Holy Week services; Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Unfortunately, participation in these vital worship experience has waned over the decades.

In response, the church began to couple the joy of Palm Sunday with the passion of Christ's arrest, persecution, and death.

We will uncouple these two significant events in the life of Christians; thus bringing us an opportunity to walk closer with Jesus.


You are encouraged to fully participate in this most significant part of the church year; immersing ourselves in Holy Week services – we look forward to being with you at both Maundy Thursday and Good Friday worship services.






### 2023 Offering Envelopes

are now here!! Please pick yours up in Luther Hall 3-26-23 or stop in the office to pick yours up!





Zion Lutheran Church North Canton, Ohio	
<b><u>APRIL ASSISTING MINISTER SCHEDULE</u></b>	<b><u>APRIL CHANCEL GUILD SCHEDULE</u></b>
April 2, 2023            George Miller	<b>SATURDAY</b>
April 9, 2023            Jim Fidler	April 1, 2023- Connie Riffle & Lisa Frock
April 16, 2023          Darlene Milavickas	April 8, 2023- Connie Riffle & Juanita Cignetti
April 23, 2023          Jim Fidler	April 15, 2023- Juanita Cignetti & Nikki Milek
April 30, 2023          Beth Heller	April 22, 2023- Connie Riffle & Betty Tracy
	April 29, 2023- Connie Riffle & Betty Tracy
<b><u>APRIL ACOLYTE SCHEDULE</u></b>	<b>SUNDAY</b>
April 2, 2023            LJ Brown	April 2, 2023- Connie Riffle & Juanita Cignetti
April 9, 2023            Ben Keith	April 9, 2023- Connie Riffle & Lisa Frock
April 16, 2023          Ava Medina	April 16, 2023- Connie Riffle & Nikki Milek
April 23, 2023          Kenadi Medina	April 23, 2023- Connie Riffle & Betty Tracy
April 30, 2023          Ben Keith	April 30, 2023- Connie Riffle & Betty Tracy
<b><u>APRIL READER SCHEDULE</u></b>	<b><u>9am SUNDAY SERVICE DOOR LOCKERS</u></b>
April 2, 2023            Nick Cignetti	April 2, 2023            George Miller
April 9, 2023            Randy Cizek	April 9, 2023            Paul Bagocius
April 16, 2023          John Long	April 16, 2023          Darlene Milavickas
April 23, 2023          Ruth Reinoehl	April 23, 2023          Paul Bagocius
April 30, 2023          Jayne Schrader	April 30, 2023          Jayne Schrader
<b><u>APRIL ACCOMPANIST SCHEDULE</u></b>	
April 2, 2023            Carol McKimm	
April 9, 2023            Carol McKimm	
April 16, 2023          Steve Moore	
April 23, 2023          Jack Brannen	

## WORSHIP MINISTRY— Paul Bagocius—Elder

New Member Sunday was on March 19. We welcomed six new members!



The choir pews have been moved into the naiv to accommodate two wheelchair spaces.



We are surveying the congregation about attending a 6:45 Easter Sunrise Service in the Zion pavilion, followed by a breakfast casserole meal in Luther Hall. If 25 people commit to being at the service, it will take place. A final determination will be announced during the Palm Sunday Service and not-  
ed on our Zion Church website. Our 9am Easter Service will take place whether or not we have the Sunrise Service.

Church gifts on Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day will be decided by the Parish Life Ministry, not the Worship Ministry.

*Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for gifting us with individuals that work to provide a meaningful and spiritual service to honor You, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.*



### Vacation Bible School - Twist & Turns



Join us this year at Twists & Turns where following Jesus changes the game! Kids will need to bring their A-game this week!

VBS will be June 26th – 30<sup>th</sup>: Monday through Thursday 9 am – 12:30 pm and Friday 9 am – 1pm.

Our weekly Bible Memory Verse: *Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.* Psalm 25:4

There are many volunteer opportunities – teacher assistants, crafts, music, games, service projects! Please contact Debbie Fox if you are able and interested to see what fits for you! Join us for one day or all week, whatever works with your schedule.

Registration packets will be available May 1<sup>st</sup>. Sign-up sheets for volunteer opportunities and donations will be located in Luther Hall later this month.

We have lots of fun, learning and games of course planned for the week with some special guests and treats! Join us and bring a friend so we can learn about how much Jesus loves us and go out and share that love with everyone!





**Our Easter Tree for the kids at Wernle Youth & Family Treatment Center**

Thank you to everyone who has donated items for the kids at Wernle! We are off to a great start with our collection, and will continue to collect items from our Easter Tree tags through Easter Sunday (April 9<sup>th</sup>). Let's finish strong and give our support to the kids at Wernle by showing them how much they are loved by God and their family at Zion!

**Easter Egg Tag items we are collecting:**

- \$20 Dairy Queen Gift Cards**
- \$20 Wendy's Gift Cards**
- \$20 Burger King Gift Cards**
- \$20 Taco Bell Gift Cards**
- \$20 WalMart Gift Cards**
- Shampoo (for both male & female)**
- Body Wash (for both male & female)**
- Men's & Women's Deodorant**
- Toothbrush Holders**
- Full Size Bath Towels & Wash Cloths**
- Cantu, Cream of Nature, and Mane n Tail Shampoos**
- Men's and Women's boxer briefs in all adult sizes, sm, md, lg, xlg, xxlg**
- Adult sized ankle socks for both males & females**
- Sweatpants and sweatshirts, (no hoods) Men's and Women's**



**Feed the Need Hunger Walk**

Great news! The Feed the Need Hunger Walk will be in person this year! Community Christian Church in North Canton will host the walk this year on Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup> with registration at 2 pm and the walk at 3 pm. Zion will have a team of walkers for the event – so get those walking shoes ready! Please see Debbie Fox if you are interested in participating. All proceeds collected for the walk will benefit Akron-Canton Regional Food Bank. Join us as we gather with other faith communities to help end hunger in our community! Thanks be to God for everyone's efforts in this important mission!

**Tree of Love Update – The Stark County Humane Society**

What a great project for February, the month of love! Thank you to everyone who donated items and money to help out the animals at the Humane Society! What a great way to share God's love with all his creatures! As you can see from the photos, we collected a lot of pet food, cleaning supplies, leashes, toys, treats and more for the animals and staff! These items were delivered the first week of March, and were received with much gratitude and appreciation.





**Food Pantry Update**

First, thank you to all of the volunteers who help set up, serve and tear down for Food Pantry each time. What a great group of volunteers! Our Food Pantry friends are so grateful, especially now as they are seeing food costs continue to rise along with the loss of extra funding that they received during the pandemic.



Second, thank you to everyone for your food and paper product donations. On average, we support about 70 households twice per month and expect this number to rise. The prices at the Foodbank and grocery stores continue to increase so these donations are more important than ever. Please consider adding an item from our staple food item list (especially hearty soups, peanut butter and

canned fruit) each time you go shopping. We are called to feed the hungry and love our neighbor – please help to continue our mission at Zion.

Thanks be to God for sending two food pantries to us that were in need of freezers to help their mission to feed the hungry. Mt. Zion Food Pantry in Canton picked up one of our freezer chests that we are no longer using, and the Fairless Food Pantry picked up one of the upright freezers we no longer need. It is so great when groups in our community can come together and help each other out!

**Blood Drive Information**

Thank you to everyone who came out to donate blood on Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>! Our schedule was full! Thanks be to God for all of you that are able to give the gift of life to those in need. Stay tuned for next month's newsletter to see how many gallons our blood drives have collected, and how many lives our donors have affected!



**Remaining 2023 Blood Drive Dates:**

- Wednesday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 4-7pm**
- Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 4-7pm**
- Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 10am-2pm**
- Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 10am-2pm**

Please mark your calendars and consider donating at one of the above drives. You can schedule and appointment online at [vitalant.org](https://vitalant.org), or see Debbie Fox and she can schedule one for you.



**WELCOME NEW DISCIPLES  
MARCH 19, 2023**

Adrienne Santiago, Sandy Cizek, Fritz Cizek,  
Judy Arter, Norma Arter, Mark Denman







Ray Davis, Lisa Frock, Norma Arter, Judy Arter & friend, Peggy Ingalls, Linda Weidenbach



Fritz Cizek, Sandy Cizek, Adrianne Santiago, Randy Cizek, Pastor William Weidenbach Jr.

**WELCOME NEW DISCIPLES  
RECEPTION IN LUTHER HALL**

**Special thanks to Darlene Milavickas and Debbie Fox for organizing the reception**





Zion Lutheran Church  
349 Lindy Lane NW  
North Canton, OH 44720  
An ELCA Congregation



Return Service Requested



**Worship Services**  
**Sunday Morning: 9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship**  
**Wednesday Evening: 7:00 p.m. Casual Indoor Service**

**Zion's Staff**  
Pastor: The Rev. William Weidenbach, Jr.  
Mobile: 850-766-5853  
Email: [Pastor@zion-nc.com](mailto:Pastor@zion-nc.com)

Office Secretary: Tina Taylor  
Phone: 330-499-3909  
Text: 330-208-9094  
Email: [Office@zion-nc.com](mailto:Office@zion-nc.com)

IT Manager: Louis Varlamos  
Email: [Tech@Zion-NC.com](mailto:Tech@Zion-NC.com)  
Website: [www.zion-nc.com](http://www.zion-nc.com)

Like us on Facebook@zionnorthcanton

**Statement of Purpose:**  
**Zion matters to the community by**  
**showing the love of Jesus Christ**

**Office hours:**  
**9:00 am to**  
**3:00pm M-F**

